

BRIDGEPORT AS IT WAS

100-50-20-YEARS AGO

(Taken from the Files of The Evening Farmer)

One Hundred Years Ago.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

The following rates of postage are to be charged after the first day of May, 1916, conformable to an Act of Congress, passed April 9th, 1916.

On Single Letters.

For any distance not exceeding 30 miles, 2 cents.
Over 30, and not over 80 miles, 10c.
Over 80, and not over 150 miles, 15c.

Over 150, and not over 400 miles, 18c.

Over 400 miles, 25c.

Double letters, or those composed of two pieces of paper, double those rates.

Triple letters, or those composed of three pieces of paper, triple those rates.

Packets, or letters composed of four or more pieces of paper, or one or more articles, and weighing one ounce or more, quadruple those rates, and ship letters, not carried by mail, are chargeable with 6 cents.

Newspapers.

Each paper carried not over 100 miles, 1 cent.

Over 100 miles, 1 1/2c.

But if carried printed, whatever be the distance, the rate is only one cent.

Magazines and Pamphlets.

Are rated by sheet.

Carried not over 50 miles, 1 cent.

Over 50 and not over 100 miles, 1 1/2c.

Over 100 miles, 2c.

Every four folio pages, eight quarto pages, and 16 octavo or lesser pages are to be considered a sheet; also the surplus pages beyond even fours, and Journals of the State Legislatures are to be charged with pamphlet postage, although not stitched or half bound.

Post-Masters are not to forward pamphlets in the letter where it is carried with great expedition, or on horseback.

JULIAN J. MEIGS, Junior, Post-Master-General, General Post Office, April 16th, 1916.

Fifty Years Ago.

THE RAIN.

A great quantity of water fell during the rain of yesterday. The streets and roads in all directions are much washed and cut up and the travelling rendered unpleasant.

THE SHAD FISHERY.

The rain has caused quite a freshet in the Housatonic river and compelled the fishermen on that river to suspend operations for the present. All will probably be right again in a day or two.

THE SPRING SEASON.

The season thus far has been cold and backward—more so than it has been for a number of years, and consequently a few only of our farmers have as yet made more than a beginning of their Spring work. Potatoes and oats, in reality, have been got into the ground to quite a limited extent. We do not understand, however, that this augurs unfavorably for either crop.

MAY PLEAD "NOT GUILTY."

There is one charge to which our present "city fathers" can, with certainty, plead "not guilty," and that is extravagance in the use of the street gas lights. Last night, our streets were as dark as the Egyptian darkness we read about. We are confident that no tax payer would grumble, if when the moon fails to keep her "contract," the guardians of the night fall back on the gas lights. Will not the worthy and gentlemanly chairman of the Committee on Lamps look to this?

ANOTHER CALICO HOP.

Notwithstanding that warm weather is upon us, there is to be another "Soiree Danante" held this season. The Lafayette club, a party of young Gents who have given their private address, during the winter at Lafayette Hall, propose winding up for this year with a Calico Hop at Franklin Hall on Thursday evening of this week. Goodell's Quadrille Band.

CRICKET GAME POSTPONED.

The "gay and festive" cricketers met yesterday as per agreement, to play the match as it was arranged, and which for some time has been the topic of much conversation in certain sporting circles. But owing to inclemency of the weather, and the soft state of the grounds, it was mutually agreed to postpone the game for one week. So that next Monday, the weather permitting, it will certainly come off. We learn that there has been some "tampering" on the contest, the odds being three to two in favor of Sirrett and Gardner, though the Wilkinson's do not by any means lack friends who are sanguine of their success.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Edward Kimball had a very narrow escape from being accidentally shot by the discharge of a pistol on his person, last Saturday night. While standing in the store of R. T. Hitchins, a friend approached, taking hold of Kimball familiarly by the coat, when the pistol "went off," the ball entering the counter below. He was not injured and had a very narrow escape.

Twenty Years Ago.

ST. MARY'S FAIR.

The fair of St. Mary's parish, now in progress in Masonic hall, was largely attended last evening and a very interesting programme was rendered previous to the dancing. The Schubert quartet, a violin and piano duo by the Misses M. and L. Riley, a piano duo by the Misses Walsh and Sales, and a recitation by Miss Louise Callahan made up an excellent program.

The attractions for to-night are Master Al. Lawrence, champion boy club singer of Connecticut; Master Chas. Gilman, piano solo; Miss Ella Begley, vocal solo, and the Misses Healey and Freeman in piano duets, Saturday evening, Master Keenan, the boy soprano will sing. An elaborate supper will be served every evening from 5 to 10 o'clock.

YELLOW CAR OWNER FOUND

Trial of Culprit Soon to Be Heard In Church.

The appearance in Fairfield Woods of a bright yellow automobile, with the carburetor, and other parts missing has been explained by the Men's Get-together Club of Washington Park M. E. church. One of the members, Mr. P. L. Bradbury complains that the private garage at his residence 1776 Noble avenue, was forcibly entered, his new 4 horse-power yellow Plivver was taken, and after a joy ride, in which several prominent East Side people were seen by reliably witnesses the car was wrecked and hid in Fairfield Woods.

The Get-together Club will hold a Mock Trial in the church parlors, corner Noble and Barnum avenues next Friday evening. As several of the witnesses will be ladies, it has been decided to invite the ladies to this meeting, and the admission will be free.

While several are implicated in this case, the real defendant will be Mr. William Clinton of 377 Maple street. Mr. Clinton's many friends have come out in warm terms of sympathy for him and are outspoken in their belief of his innocence, and have several witnesses to show that the complainant was inspired by jealousy, spite and malice in making this charge against the defendant.

This is the second trial given by the members of Washington Park M. E. church and many will remember the trial in which Mr. A. H. Taylor the former local music dealer was convicted of purloining a lawn mower belonging to ex-Mayor John Wessells.

COMEDY SKETCH AND MOCK TRIAL PLANNED BY EPWORTH LEAGUE

The Epworth league of the First M. E. church of Broad street and Fairfield avenue, is planning a pleasant entertainment to be given at 8 o'clock to-morrow evening in the church parlors. The program will consist of a comedy sketch entitled "Miss Pringle's Leap Year," and the mock trial, "A Great Case." Vocal solos and music will be rendered throughout the evening by West's orchestra.

Gen. Hwang Hsing, leader of the first Chinese revolution, sailed from San Francisco to take command of the revolution against Yuan Shi Kai.

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Gifts

FOR EASTERTIDE

Beauty and utility characterize the ideal Easter gift and to obtain this you need spend only a very modest sum if you make your selections here.

An ideal gift would be a cross and neck chain, rosary beads, lavelier wrist watch, diamond, cut glass, silverware, etc.

Come see them yourself.

M. J. BUECHLER

THE RELIABLE JEWELER
48 FAIRFIELD AVENUE
NEAR MIDDLE STREET

RAILROAD MEN PLAN MEETING ON NEW SCALE

Cleveland, April 22—Representatives of the railroads in the United States and of the four railroad brotherhoods will meet at Chicago April 29 to discuss the recent demands of the brotherhoods for an eight hour day. Announcement to this effect was made here today by W. G. Lee, president of the trainmen's brotherhood.

The Chicago meeting arrangements will be made for a later conference at which brotherhoods' demands will be considered in detail. The April 27 meeting was suggested by the representatives of the railroads.

In addition to the eight hour day the Brotherhoods are demanding time and a half for overtime in freight and yard service.

Dr. Bennett Davis Talks On Criminals

A large audience listened with interest to the discourse of Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, New York Commissioner of Parole, delivered upon the subject of criminals and their reform, at the People's Presbyterian church last night.

Dr. Davis spoke at length upon the penal institutions and the experiment that has been carried on to prevent the increase of criminal knowledge through incarceration of the young with older offenders. She expressed herself as in favor of the indeterminate sentence and vocational schools.

The indeterminate sentence, she said, permitted the release of the thoroughly chastened culprit before she learned more of crime than he knew upon his sentence. The vocational institution gives every convict a trade to ply upon his release and a chance to work honestly, she said.

CITY HONORS SHAKESPEARE

New York, April 24—The 300th anniversary of the death of Shakespeare will be celebrated all this week by ceremonies and exercises in the public parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, churches and educational institutions here. These exercises include plays, readings, dances and games, and will end Saturday with a Shakespeare concert in Central park.

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PRESIDENT SEES CHILDREN HAPPY AT EGG-ROLLING

Washington, April 24—The annual Easter Egg rolling was held on the White House grounds today. Despite the chilly weather, thousands of youngsters with grown-ups as spectators, were on hand early ready to enjoy the sport. There was no class distinction. The children of high government officials and diplomats mingled with those from the humblest homes.

President Wilson, who takes keen interest in the event, made no engagements for the day, and was prepared to watch the children. Mrs. Wilson had as her special guests the children of cabinet members and other officials.

The gates to the grounds, by direction of the President, were opened at 9 a. m. Hundreds of children carrying baskets filled with vari-colored eggs were waiting for admission. The regulations required that adults accompany the children.

Parade To Precede Carnival of Eagles

Bridgeport aerle, No. 420, Fraternal Order of Eagles, will hold a parade of the members and the visiting brethren preceding the opening of the carnival Friday evening. It is expected that several hundred Eagles will be in line. Answers to many invitations have been received, and it is believed that a large representation from out of town lodges will be present.

There will be a special entertainment each evening of the carnival, the programs for which are now being made out. One of the features will be the awarding of a fully equipped automobile. Dancing will follow each of these entertainments.

The committee is: John T. Doyle, John J. Heavey, D. J. O'Connor, J. H. Spittler, P. J. Brady, G. A. Jamieson, J. L. Lynch, T. N. McNamara, J. J. Keegan, J. L. Hartner, Thomas Loveley, Dr. D. H. Monahan, J. T. Tague, Daniel Brooley, George Case, Thomas Nilan, James Sheehy, Edward Finlan, Charles Hardy, John Rooney, J. F. McGuire and H. F. Cooney.

MASONIC NOTES.

A special communication of St. John's lodge, No. 3, will be held at Masonic Temple at 7:30 o'clock, Wednesday evening, April 26. The M. M. degree will be conferred. It will be U. M. C. night. Luncheon will be served after the meeting.

George Pilson, aged 74, last of the 19 who followed John Brown in his raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859, died at his home in Yonkers, N. Y.

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